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In The Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt
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EDITORIALS

THE ATLANTIC PACT

Although a case can be made out that the spirit of the proposed Atlantic Pact is not in conflict with the United Nations, many of us are forced, regretfully, to come to the conclusion that major nations feel that the UN is unable to cope with the big problems of security in the postwar world.

The United States has been unable to solve the Berlin crisis.

The UN has failed to settle the Indinesian problem.

The UN has been unable to halt the flow of Russian vetoes, and it has been helpless in the incredible Chinese Civil War. Some measure of success climaxed its frantic efforts in Palestine, but there has been an atmosphere of futility surrounding UN efforts to deal with the major problems of the world.

There is scant likelihood of ever getting an agreement with Russia for lasting peace treaties ending the occupations in Germany and Austria. The European continent bristles with danger spots and unsolved issues.

The placing of blame will await the historians of a later generation. It is not for us to say who did and who did not approach the settlement of World War II with clean hands.

But there is quite a field for the feeling that more than the United Nations if we are to have postwar security; that steps toward disarmament can be made only by pooling military might by peace-loving nations.

Security alliances are as old as history and in their defense it can be claimed that when strong enough they have given the world decades of peace. The military and economic union of Europe would be a big step toward security for that war-tattered continent. But that is not a reality. Security must rest upon reality. The Atlantic Pact will be realistic facing of the problem of security, and in the light of the fluid state of affairs, is necessary.

THE PROGRESSIVE CITIZEN HAS HIS FIELD

It seems to us that an effort is being made to pin the label of "Anti" on any and everyone who offers any suggestion of how the government of Virginia might be improved. Some would like to draw a line and force citizens to either accept as perfect the status quo down to the last "dotted i" or else be styled an "anti."

If this situation is true, it is not wholesome. There are many thousands who find themselves by and large in approval with the way the Old Dominion is governed, who admire its sound fiscal policies and take pride in the remarkable expansion of state services and efficiency of function; yet, realize that the problems of the postwar generation require a constant influx of new viewpoints and willingness to "go forward." These are not anti-anything. In our opinion they are the soundest group of citizens we have. It is unfair to classify them as radicals and crackpots; it is not wise to seek to read them out of the conservative party of the ruling party. There is a field of opportunity for "middle-of-the-road" citizens.

WITH OTHER EDITORS

CONSOLIDATION OF COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM

Roanoke World-News

After struggling with the problem of 100 separate county school systems, some of them ridiculously small and inadequate, the State Board of Education finally has moved to solve one of Virginia's major headaches. It has recommended consolidation of the schools in Gloucester and Matthews - two adjoining counties on the York - Rappahannock Peninsula facing Chesapeake Bay. Both of the County School Boards have voted their approval.

At the same time the State Superintendent of Public Instruction announced that the State Board also plans consolidations for Middlesex with Essex and King and Queen with King William. Under the plan there would be a single divisional superintendent who would work under two boards. Whether this would be a satisfactory solution we are not prepared to say other than to observe that a joint board would appear much easier to operate while a two-board affair offers complications.

A REMINDER

From Wall Street Journal

Let us suppose that we had only one coal mining company in this country. And let us suppose further that the president of that company decided to shut down his plants because he thought the country had too much coal or because he was piqued at some political action of the company.

The reaction of the public would be sharp, clear and positive. There would be a hue and cry against such a man. But there would be more than fulminations. The people through the government would act swiftly, not just to revenge themselves against this man but to end once and for all the possibility of such a gance possible.

Last week the nation's coal mines except for a few negligable independents, closed down. Some 470,000 miners and 62,000 other workers became immediately idle and payless. The loss in wages for a two weeks' "holiday" is estibated at $73 million.

This stoppage is not the result of a strike for wages or working conditions. It is the result of the decision of one man. Some people say he ordered it because coal stocks are "too high" and he is stabilizing the supply; he says, because he objects to the new appointee as head of the federal Bureau of Mines and is voicing his protest.

Whatever his reasons, however just they appear, the fact is that he has by himself shut down the mines and no one can say him nay.

What is intolerable is not Mr. Lewis but the monopoly all of us have given him by forfeit. The holiday in the coal fields ought to be a reminder to what impotence the public is brought by permitting this new monopoly of labor, however "good" the men who wield it.

HOW TO CROSS A GOOSE

From Winchester Star

Many persons have eaten watermelons all their lives without knowing, until now, that they were created male and female. If they had known, they would hardly have supposed that the sex of a watermelon mattered, even to another watermelon. Most persons had assumed that everything was left to the bees.

But somebody does care, after all. The Government Printing Office in Washington publishes a bulletin on the subject, and those who are interested in such things can no doubt obtain a copy through their Congressman.

Those who consider this too much trouble may be interested in learning about the economic status of the bandtailed pigeon, how to cook muskrat, how to chase bats from the attac ("the most satisfactory and the only permanent way of obtaining freedom from the bat-roost nuisance is to shut the bats out," the publication solemnly declares), how to cross a goose with a swan (result: a swoose), or how to control vagrant cats (you find out if the cat belongs to a friend or neighbor, and if not, gas'em or drown'm).

All these and many, many more, as Senator Bridges has been complaining lately, are published by the Federal Government for the benefit of, and at the expense of the people of the United States.

The Government Printing Office, Senator Bridges reports, has delivered 133,582,867,587 pieces of printed matter on these and other subjects in the last 10 years. And it explains why the Government Printing Office is the largest printing shop in the world. It helps to explain why the post office is constantly running in the red. Most of these publications are mailed postage free.

Young men becoming 18 should register with draft board.

Robert Whitehead urges farmers to organize for protection.

Many Conditions Affect Poultry Flock Breeding

There are several conditions which can affect the fertility of a breeding poultry flock. Experts say it is a good plan to wait for a week or 10 days after males have been put with the flock before starting to save eggs that are to be used for hatching.

Weather conditions, vigor of males, size of flock, condition of layers, and number of males are some of the important factors.

U.S. War Dead Burial Sites May Not Open To Visitors Until '50

PARIS. — Permanent burial of thousands of American World War II dead in 10 western European cemeteries will be accomplished by the end of this year, but the actual completion and opening of the interment sites to visitors may not come until a late date, said a U. S. Army spokesman here.

The American graves registration command has responsibility for the permanent burials. When this phase is finished the jurisdiction of the grounds will be handed over to the American Battle Monuments commission, which is the civilian agency that cares for World War I cemeteries and memorials.

Somewhat identical arrangements are being made for the Pacific and Mediterranean war areas, where the two government units are carrying out a similar program. In Europe, both have headquarters in Paris.

Plans submitted by private architects for grave markers, chapels, and other cemetery buildings are [illegible] by the battle monuments commission. Until the work is completed, the cemeteries will remain closed to the public.

This means that many Americans who planned to visit graves of sons or husbands in the summer of 1949 may have to wait until 1950 or longer.

Since last September 20, when the last of the original 37 temporary World War II cemeteries in western Europe (not including Italy) was closed for disinterment operations, visitors have been prohibited at the burial sites.

A total of 61,861 of 147,240 bodies recovered in the European theater have been returned to the United States at the request of next of kin. Because hundreds of replies are still to come from relatives, the Army is unable to determine the number of bodies that will be left permanently in Europe.

Uncle Sam Says

Here's an old saying: "There's nothing like being without money to make one appreciate having it." And now is your opportunity to make certain that you'll always have plenty of it by putting some into U. S. Savings Bonds every payday. The safest, surest way of providing future security is by saving the regular, automatic way through the Payroll Savings Plan where you work. Or, if self-employed, enroll for the Bond-a-Month Plan at your bank. No fuss, no bother with either plan. And in 10 years your money will come back to you with interest, $4 for every $3 you invest.

U.S. Treasury Department

Predict less acreage to be sown during current year.

Police seek to head off a buying spree in East Berlin.

Truman says that the administration and Congress are cooperating.

Compensation is demanded by idle miners.

THE BIBLE SPEAKS
By DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN
International Uniform Sunday School Lessons

SCRIPTURE: Mark 7:24-37; Luke 10:30-42
DEVOTIONAL READING: Acts 10:34-43

The Race Question

Lesson for March 27, 1949.

JESUS DID NOT know there was a race question. That is to say, there was no question for him, though he well knew that his neighbors found the race problem a hot one. All the germs of any race problem, even race riots, were there in Palestine as in all of our world today.

Dr. Foreman

First there was the feeling of racial superiority. Few, if any, peoples think of themselves as an inferior race. Nobody would mind being kicked around if he thought he deserved nothing better. The Jews, to which race Jesus belonged, were no exception to the rule. They felt themselves the superior of any race on earth.

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Two Sides of the Question

IN JESUS' time the Jew of Palestine was in the middle. The Romans, having conquered the land, were top-dog in Palestine. With the Romans, the Jews saw the under-side of the race question. But there were other races, much less pure than the Jews, races called "Canaanite" for want of a better name. These people were kicked around by the Jews, just as the Jews in turn were kicked around by the Romans. Looking at the Canaanites, the Jews saw the race question from the top side.

In Palestine the wounds of race quarrels were made worse by the vinegar of religious differences. In those days it was taken for granted: Different race, different religion.

Jesus' neighbors and relatives in Nazareth, like most Jews, supposed that God would favor only the "chosen people," namely themselves. So the Jew's resentment toward [illegible] above him and his contempt of the Canaanites beneath him were made more bitter by his conviction that they would all end in hell except his own race.

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What Jesus Did About It

THE TWO STORIES in our lesson (see the Scripture references) show the astonishingly simple way in which Jesus walked straight through those walls as if they did not exist. He passed no resolutions, denounced nobody; he simply treated all races alike. He helped the Roman army officer and the Canaanite woman precisely as if they had been Jews. (By the way, his remarks to that woman should not be misunderstood as rude. She did not take them that way. He spoke to her, we may well believe, with a smile, and she took him with equal good humor.) Jesus appreciated faith wherever he found it.

He was the last person to fancy that all human beings are alike. But he was the first to give all an equal chance. He took people as human beings, not as "Romans" or "Canaanites."

He neither cringed to the Romans nor bullied the Canaanites. He looked at all men and women with level eyes, seeing not their skins nor their clothes, but their hearts.

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What We Can Do

OUR NORTH AMERICA is also criss-crossed by walls of prejudice — racial, political and religious. In Canada (for example) there is the friction between Canadians of French and those of English or Scotch descent; in the United States (not by any means confined to the South) between Negroes and white people, or between Japanese and white people; between the "old stock" and recent immigrants; and so on. Those walls look pretty solid; but a Christian will find that if he follows Jesus' example he can walk right through them. Last winter a national interdenominational organization challenged its 28 million members and through them the Christian world, with one of the most sweeping declarations of human rights ever drafted by an American church body.

Hitting at every type of discrimination—racial, political, social, economic, religious—the group has challenged the Church to work for the creation of a non-segregated society "as proof of their sincerity."

Yet the real breakdown of human prejudices, hatreds and contempts, with the injustices growing out of these, does not come at one stroke by resolutions. It comes only by degrees, as Christ-inspired individuals make their own bright doorways.

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Rocks News

Rocks, March 21.- Farmers are busy sowing grass seed.

A. T. Anderson has a new pick-up truck.

Mrs. Harry Ranson celebrated her birthday last Monday.

Mrs. Bessie Cobb and Mr. and Mrs. Holmsey Ingre, Sr. were visiting Mrs. Harry Ranson awhile on Tuesday night.

Cassie Baldwin attended the State W. M. U. meeting in Richmond last week.

William Carroll Ranson was among the 4-H Club boys who broadcast over the radio last Monday from Farmville.

Kyle Almond is on the sick list again.

Quite a few from around here attended the funerals of Mrs. Pen. Harvey and Mrs. Walter Paul at Evergreen last Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Almond, of Johnson Heights were visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. K. Almond Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Cal Ranson and daughter, Odelle, an Annie C. Martin were visiting Mr. and Mrs. C. Elder awhile Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Hudson Dickerson and Danny, of Brookneal, were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Dickerson Sunday.

Ruth Ranson was on the sick list Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. M. W. Eisemon and family, of Galts Mill were visiting Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Ranson Sunday.

Johnny Roach will celebrate his 5th birthday this week.

The Rev. and Mrs. C. G. Carter were dinner guests of Miss Cassie Morin Sunday.

Miss Geraldine Ranson spent Sunday with Mrs. Allen Franklin.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Ranson were visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Marks, in Lynchburg recently.

Evergreen

Evergreen, March 21.- Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Staples and W. J. Glover all called to see Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Glover Monday night.

Mrs. Louise Pope and two sons, of South Carolina spent several last week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Evans.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Reynolds were Sunday night guests of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Reynolds, of near Vera.

Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Cralle spent the week-end in Richmond with their daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Clapp.

Mr. and Mrs. Junior Blackwell called to see her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Green Garrett Sunday.

Mrs. S. J. Evans and mother, Mrs. Jennie Johnson and Mrs. W. E. Warriner visited Mrs. James Evans near Oakville last Thursday. Mrs. Evans was not so well.

Lawrence Hodges returned home from the Virginia Baptist Hospital Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hodge and James Evans visited his daughter in Roanoke over the week-end.

Mrs. Melvin Hudson fell last Tuesday and broke her hip and shoulder. She was rushed to the Virginia Baptist Hospital.

Mrs. Jim Conner is ill.

J. R. Conner is a patient at the Virginia Baptist Hospital.

Mrs. Daniel Jennings and two daughters, of Christiansburg, are visiting Mrs. Sam Jennings.

Paul Ferguson called in the home of Mrs. Howard Glover Sunday.

D. T. Ferguson, of Lynchburg, is spending a few days with his neice and family.

Mrs. Annie Warriner is suffering from arthritis. Those who called to see her Sunday afternoon were Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hodge and Miss Blannie Evans.

Misses Eulalia and Elnora Glover were Thursday night guests of Miss Carrie Hodges.

Mr. and Mrs. Z. V. Harvey and daughter, Phyllis spent Sunday at Darlington Heights with his brother, Chap Harvey and family.

Evergreen, March 21.- Mr. and Mrs. James Womack were dinner guests Sunday of his mother, Mrs. J. C. Womack.

Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Inge, Ed Hamilton and Mr. and Mrs. Ray Fitzgerald, all of Roanoke were visiting here Sunday.

J. R. Conner is improving nicely at Virginia Baptist Hospital.

Rev. and Mrs. C. G. Carter called on the sick the past week.

Quite a number of friends called in the home of Mrs. J. R. Conner during the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. O. C. Paulette and son, Kermit were dinner guests recently of Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Paulette.

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Russia warns Finland against the Atlantic Alliance.

Rumor of "world end" causes excitment in Bavaria.

Sweden votes $230 million for national defense.

Four nations invited to join the Atlantic Pact.

666 LIQUID OR TABLETS GIVES FAST RELIEF when COLD MISERIES STRIKE

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SPRING SPECIAL
IT'S SPRING AGAIN! . . . time to flush out Winter's sludge and grime from your car engine! . . . time to change to the right grade of fresh Esso Motor Oil for great protection in hot weather driving.
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DON'T RISK the expense of faulty lubrication! . . . take your car to your Esso Dealer . . . where lubrication experts use the right lubricants in the right places . . . use *specialized lubricants!* . . . applied by experts!
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